

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 EPG-02 FAA-00 L-03
SS-15 SP-02 NSC-05 H-01 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06
/072 W

-----009687 201033Z /17

P R 200956Z JUN 77
FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5375
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE HONG KONG 7118

LONDON ALSO FOR AMB BOYD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, UK, US, HK, TW
SUBJ: USAUK CIVAIR NEGOTIATIONS: EFFECTS OF SERVICE SUSPENSION
HONG KONG

REF: TAIPEI 3595

1. INSTRUCTED BY HIS NEW YORK HEADQUARTERS, PANAM SOUTHEAST ASIA
REGIONAL REP RESIDENT IN HONG KONG HAS MADE FOLLOWING CONTINGENCY
PLANS SHOULD AIRLINE BE DENIED HK LANDING RIGHTS BY SUSPENSION
OF US-UK CIVAIR SERVICE JUNE 22. ALTHOUGH PASSENGERS NOT YET
NOTIFIED, PANAM PLANS 0700 ETD FOR FLIGHT 001 ON JUNE 22 (ON ASSUM-
PTION) THAT SUSPENSION WOULD GO INTO EFFECT 0800 HONG KONG TIME).

2. FOR FIRST 72 HOURS OF SUSPENSION, PANAM ROUND-THE-WORLD
(R-T-W) FLIGHT WILL OVERFLY HK, FLYING DIRECTLY BETWEEN TOKYO
AND BANGKOK, WITH AIRCRAFT STOPPING OVERNIGHT IN BANGKOK ON BOTH
EAST AND WEST BOUND ROUTES. PASSENGERS IN HK WILL BE FERRIED TO
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EITHER TOKYO OR BANGKOK ON "INVOLUNTARY RE-ROUTE" BASIS.
IF, AFTER FIRST 72 HOURS, PANAM R-T-W OVERFLIGHT PLAN PROVES NOT
FEASIBLE, AIRLINE WILL USE TAIPEI AS STOPOVER POINT ALTERNATIVE
TO HK. PANAM RECEIVED GROC APPROVAL LATE LAST WEEK FOR R-T-W
AIRCRAFT LANDING RIGHTS AND HAS COMPLETED GROC IMMIGRATION
FORMALITIES NECESSARY TO LOCATE TEMPORARILY 19 HK-BASED
STAFF IN TAIWAN. PANAM HAS ARRANGED WITH CHINA AIR LINES

(CAL) FOR HK-TAIPEI SHUTTLE, IF NECESSARY, TO ENABLE HK PASSENGERS TO MEET R-T-W SCHEDULE.

3. PANAM REP IS NOT ENTIRELY SATISFIED WITH TAIPEI AS ALTERNATE TO HK BECAUSE OF TAIPEI'S INADEQUATE HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS AND HIGH JET FUEL PRICES. FURTHERMORE, REP IS CONCERNED ABOUT THE EFFECTS OF PANAM'S USING TAIPEI ON UPCOMING VISIT OF PANAM PRESIDENT SEWALL TO PRC. NEVERTHELESS, SINCE PHILIPPINES FOMIN ROMULO, WHOM PANAM REGIONAL REP SAID HE HAD APPROACHED PERSONALLY, HAD DENIED PANAM'S USE OF MANILA AS ALTERNATE TO HK, TAIPEI WAS AIRLINE'S ONLY OPTION.

4. PANAM REP REPORTS NO SIGNIFICANT CANCELLATIONS FROM PASSENGERS BOOKED ON PANAM HK FLIGHTS AFTER JUNE 22, BUT NUMBERS OF PASSENGERS HAVE ASKED PANAM TO PROTECT THEIR RESERVATIONS WITH SEATS ON OTHER AIRLINES. IN BOOKING SEATS ON OTHER CARRIERS, PANAM WILL AVOID USING CATHAY PACIFIC (CX) AND BRITISH AIRWAYS (BA) WHEREVER POSSIBLE. TO ACCOMMODATE PASSENGERS BOOKED ON SUSPENDED HK-MANILA ROUTE, PANAM WILL TRY TO RE-ROUTE AS MANY AS POSSIBLE TO PHILIPPINE AIRLINES (PR).

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 20-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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